STATE SCHOOL AID UPDATE

Michigan Department of Education



JANUARY 2022

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JANUARY 14, 2022 REVENUE ESTIMATING CONFERENCE

A revenue estimating conference was held on January 14, 2022 to update revenue projections for fiscal year (FY) 2022, FY 2023, and to make initial projections for FY 2024. FY 2022 revenue projections for both the general fund and the state school aid fund were revised at the conference. The general fund projection was revised upward by \$776.6 million and the school aid fund projection was revised upward by \$947.2 million. For detailed information on the January revenue estimating conference, go to the House of Representative Fiscal Agency website or Senate Fiscal Agency website.

GOVERNOR'S FY 2023 STATE BUDGET

While no one can say for certain at this time what the revenue consensus from the above referenced conference may mean for future state school aid budgets, one indication will come when the Governor unveils her proposed budget for FY 2023. Of course, the budget cycle will then run its full course through the legislative process before enactment in appropriation bills. Also, the Governor's State of the State address is scheduled for January 26, 2022 which may include education news.

JANUARY PAYMENT INFORMATION

The January state school aid payment is the fourth regular payment of the 2022 fiscal year. The payment will be electronically transferred to the districts' accounts on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

Taxable value - The January payment continues to use the beginning 2021 tax roll non-homestead taxable value data, as provided by the county treasurers via the web based taxable valuation collection process by December 21, 2021. These data can be viewed by school district personnel on the <u>Department's Taxable Value Management System</u> website. **Pupil membership** - October 2021 unaudited pupil count data reported to the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) via the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) by December 27, 2021 were used in the calculation of the blended membership count for the January payment.

UPDATED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING GUIDANCE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Financial Accounting Guidance During the COVID-19 Pandemic was recently updated to include background information and accounting guidance related to Emergency Connectivity Funds (ECF), Fall 2021 Child Care Relief Funds (Child Care Sustainability Grant), and Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) funds. This publication will continue to be updated frequently as MDE receives additional questions from districts and information regarding state and federal financial reporting requirements. Questions regarding this item may be directed to Christopher May at 517-335-1263 or MayC@michigan.gov.

SUPPLEMENTAL COUNT DAY

The second count date of the school year, February 9, 2022, is quickly approaching. As a courtesy to the field, the Department would like to remind all districts that schools must be open and scheduled for regular instruction on each count day prescribed in legislation. Only a district that is not in session on that day <u>due to conditions not within the control of school authorities</u> will be allowed to use the immediately following day on which the district is in session for count purposes, and only if the district requested and received written approval from the Department for the alternate count date. If your district was closed on count day due to unforeseen conditions, please use the following form to request an alternate count date: https://fs10.formsite.com/SASF/form8/index.html.

SECTION 101 - SCHOOL DAY CANCELLATIONS AND FORGIVEN TIME

Section 101 of the State School Aid Act (MCL 388.1701) remains the same as in past years with regard to the cancellation of instructional time. The language continues to grant districts six (6) days and/or the equivalent number of hours to use toward cancellations that occur due to conditions beyond the control of school authorities, commonly referred to as "forgiven time" or "snow days." Language remains that grants the State Superintendent the authority to grant up to three (3) additional days or equivalent hours cancelled as instruction, provided the cancellation is due to unusual and extenuating circumstances resulting from conditions not within the control of school authorities. Districts must provide strong rationale supporting why these days cannot be rescheduled before the end of the school year. Applications for additional forgiven time are only accepted through the online form. Questions regarding this item should be directed to Jessica Beagle at BeagleJ1@Michiqan.gov.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- **February 1** is the due date for districts and ISDs to report to the local health department the **immunization status** of each new pupil in grades K-12 who enrolled in the district or ISD for the first time during the immediately preceding calendar year and all 6th graders, pursuant to State School Aid Act Section 167. (Helpdesk 888-243-6652)
- **February 9** is the **supplemental count day** for all districts, ISDs, and PSAs and the 3rd quarterly count date for adult education participants.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- The proration factor for the Section 31a At Risk funds is 76.79125757%.
- The Headlee Obligation for Data Collection funds are being paid at \$26.8311246101 per pupil.
- 22d(4) funds are being paid at \$52.20 per pupil for districts with fewer than 8 pupils per square mile, \$39.15 per pupil for districts with at least 8 but fewer than 9 pupils per square mile, and \$26.10 per pupil for districts with at least 9, but fewer than 10 pupils per square mile.

^{*}Do you have questions about the information appearing in this UPDATE? Call the consultants identified above or **Phil Boone, State Aid and School Finance, MDE,** cell phone: **517-899-0796,** fax: **517-241-0196**, email: BooneP2@Michigan.gov